survior was detected even after removing 30,000 cu.m. of earth/ stone from the subsidence site till 31-10-2001.

(b) Director General of Mines Safety provides the necessary guidance to rescue operations. In the instant case, at least one officer of DGMS was kept posted at the site of the accident for the entire period during which rescue efforts were being made.

(c) and (d) No survivor or dead body was found. Action taken against the mafia does not come within the purview of DGMS/ CIL. Illegal mining is the concern of the State administration and police. It is for them to conduct such enquiry and investigation as they consider necessary.

Comparative price of imported and indigenously produced coal

†2439. SHRI RAM JETHMALANI: Will the Minister of COAL AND MINES be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the price of imported coal in the country is less than the consumer selling price of indigenously produced coal;

(b) if so, what has been the maximum and minimum prices of both types of coal during the year 2000-2001, month-wise details thereof; and

(c) what are the reasons of the landed cost of imported coal to Indian ports being lesser than the cost of indigenously produced coal?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COAL AND MINES (SHRI RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD): (a) Imported coal, *per-se*, at ports is costlier than the pit-head price of Indian coal on per tonne basis. However, the delivered price of Indian coal upon transportation over long distances becomes higher than the price of imported coal on equated energy basis mainly due to following factors:

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†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

(i) Indian coal is inherently of low Gross Calorific Value (GCV) when compared to imported coal.

(ii) Indian coal by virtue of location of coal fields in central/ eastern part of India requires transporation over long distances to consumption points and transport costs are substantially high.

(iii) Indian coal also undergoes levy of royalty and sales tax, which may not be obtained to the same degree on imported coal.

(b) and (c) Coal is imported under OGL (Open General License) and Coal India Limited or Government of India in the Ministry of Coal is not importing coal. However, as per information available, the CIF price of imported coal in Asian market during 2001 is approximately US $ 37.96 per tonne. The basic price of various grades of Indian Coal in certain coalfields is as under:—

Price range of Run-of Mine (Non-Long Flame) coal produced by the subsidiaries of Coal India Limited (CIL)

Price Range (In Rupees per tonne)

Grade	ECL(MUGMA)	MCL
A	1,382	912
B	1,222	819
C	1,006	674
D	794	566
E	630	445
F	417	351
G	358	250

Achievements in coal production

2440. SHRI RAMDAS AGARWAL: Will the Minister of COAL AND MINES be pleased to state:

(a) whether India is the third largest coal producing country in the world;

(b) if so, the coal production during the last three years,